STATE OF IOWA

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:

AQUILA, INC., d/b/a AQUILA NETWORKS

DOCKET NO. RPU-02-5

ORDER SUSPENDING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE AND CANCELING SCHEDULED EVIDENTIARY HEARING

(Issued December 13, 2002)

On December 12, 2002, Aquila, Inc., d/b/a Aquila Networks (Aquila), and the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a joint motion to suspend the existing procedural schedule in this matter and cancel the evidentiary hearing scheduled to begin on December 16, 2002.

In support of their joint motion, Aquila and Consumer Advocate state that they have concluded settlement negotiations, which they believe resolve all issues in this matter. Aquila and Consumer Advocate expect to file a proposed settlement agreement and a motion for adoption of the proposed settlement with the Board by December 20, 2002. As a result of their proposed settlement, the evidentiary hearing scheduled to begin on December 16, 2002, is no longer necessary.

The Board finds the joint request to be reasonable and will suspend the procedural schedule and cancel the scheduled evidentiary hearing in this matter.

The parties shall file a proposed settlement with the Board on or before December 20, 2002.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. The joint motion to suspend the procedural schedule and cancel the scheduled evidentiary hearing filed on December 12, 2002, by Aquila, Inc., d/b/a Aquila Networks, and the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice is granted.
- 2. The parties shall file a proposed settlement with the Board on or before December 20, 2002.

/s/ Diane Munns /s/ Mark O. Lambert ATTEST: /s/ Judi K. Cooper Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 13th day of December, 2002.